

**Minutes of the Meeting
Town/Village of Northfield Merger Committee
May 21, 2007 – 5:00 p.m.
Northfield Municipal Building**

Vice-Chair Richard Sutor opened the meeting at 5:03 p.m. Also present were Trustee James Wilson, Committee members Frank Plumley, Steve Jeffrey, Art Supplee, Michael Popowski, Jay Pedley, and Municipal Manager Nanci Allard.

A motion was made by Mike Popowski, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to accept the minutes of April 16, 2007, as written. So moved.

Vice-Chair Sutor asked for reports from the subcommittees.

Highway: Mike Popowski reported the committee had met a few times and discussed past issues that seemed to cause the vote to merge fail. They also discussed letters in the file that addressed the authority by which the Selectboard taxes a separate Town Highway Tax. In a letter dated 1995, the State questioned that practice. Chair Melvin Adams will research that issue with the State and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns and report back to the subcommittee.

Utilities: Vice-Chair Sutor reported the subcommittee had met once and reviewed the outstanding debt for the water, sewer and electric departments. They also have reviewed maps showing the individual areas that supply service. Each area is different for water, sewer and electric.

Finance: Trustee Wilson reported that the utility subcommittee took the report from Lyndonville to use as a “boilerplate” form to record like information about the Town and Village of Northfield. They will meet on June 4, 2007 with Accounting Manager Laurie Baroffio and report back to the committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting. One question that needs an answer is the disposition of all the Town and Village assets and liabilities before a vote to merge is taken to the voters.

The next meeting will be June 18, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Office. The sub-committees (highway, finances and utilities) were directed to meet individually and be prepared to report to the full committee at the June meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Wilson at 5:32 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Art Supplee. So moved.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanci Allard

Nanci Allard
Acting Clerk